

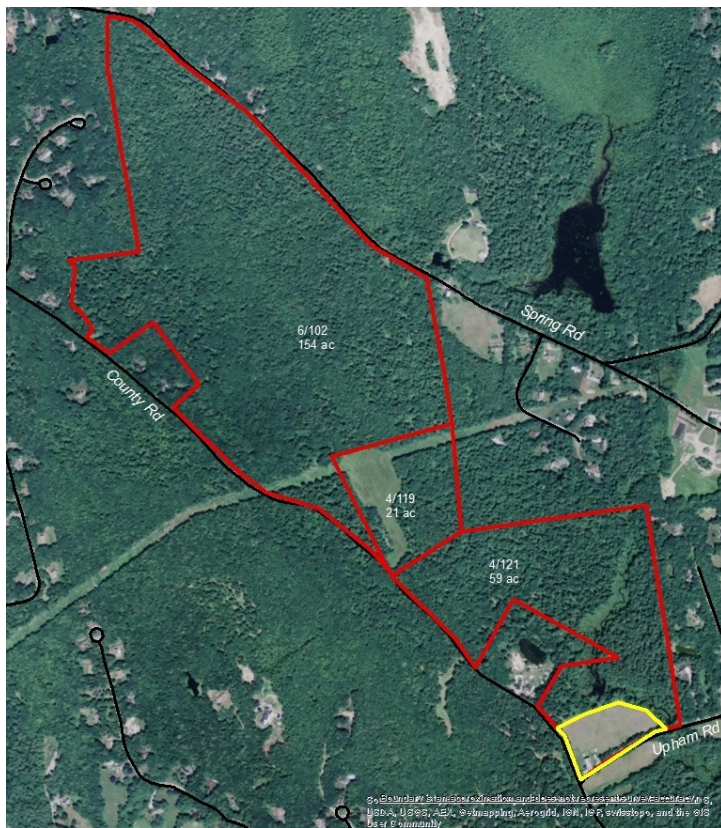


## HAZEN LAND ACQUISITION FACT SHEET

**\*\* VOTE "YES" ON ARTICLE 31!\*\***

The Amherst Conservation Commission recommends that the Town of Amherst purchase three parcels of the Hazen property to conserve open space, wildlife habitat and important water resources. This proposed acquisition:

- Permanently protects 227 acres of undeveloped land between Spring, County and Upham Roads.
- Conserves land overlying one of Amherst's highest yielding groundwater aquifers and provides recharge to down gradient residential drinking water wells. 90% of Amherst presently depends on ground water for their drinking water supply.
- Protects surface water, wetlands and vernal pools which provide flood storage, aquatic habitat and ground water recharge.
- Offers potential for development of recreational trails for hiking, biking, snowshoeing, cross country skiing and bird watching.
- Protects a hemlock-hardwood-pine forest which serves as critical habitat for bobcat, fishers, roughed grouse, purple finch and the state-endangered Blanding's turtle.



- Abuts existing Town conservation land to the north providing a continuous wildlife corridor extending two miles northeasterly to Grater Woods and Merrimack conservation land.
- Provides potential for a "safe routes to school" pathway from the Village to Souhegan High School.
- Is accomplished by committing \$450,000 of Town funding (this warrant) with \$500,000 of grant funding through the assistance of the Piscataquog Land Conservancy and \$50,000 of existing ACC conservation funds. This enables Amherst to acquire this valuable open space for 45 cents on the dollar; an extraordinary one time opportunity for the Town.

To learn more about the Hazen land purchase, visit the ACC section of the Amherst Town website. Questions can be directed to ACC Chair John Harvey [acc@amherstnh.gov](mailto:acc@amherstnh.gov) or Chris Wells at the Piscataquog Land Conservancy at 487-3331.